



State of South Carolina Office of the Lieutenant Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, October 9, 2003

Contact: Randy Page
(803) 734-2080

Lieutenant Governor Bauer To Lead Economic Development Mission

COLUMBIA - Lieutenant Governor André Bauer will be leading an economic development mission to Taiwan from October 13 - October 22, 2003. Joining Bauer on this mission will be State Agriculture Commissioner Charlie Sharpe and Representative Liston Barfield. The government of Taiwan is funding the trip.

During their time in Taiwan, they will be meeting with numerous officials including His Excellency Michael Kao, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Republic of China, His Excellency Steve Chen, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Economic Affairs of the Republic of China, Chairman K.C. Fan of the Taiwan Provincial Government, Mayor Ying-jeou Ma of Taipei Municipal Government and Mayor Jason Hu of Taichung City, who formerly served as the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Bauer and the delegation will also meet with business leaders and tour the Taipei World Trade Center and Formosa Plastic's Mailiao Industrial Complex. Formosa Plastics, the largest enterprise in Taiwan, is the parent company of Nan-ya Corporation. Additionally, the delegation will be looking for markets for South Carolina agricultural products.

Bauer stated, "I'm pleased to be able to lead this delegation to Taiwan and look for ways to increase economic development opportunities between South Carolina and Taiwan."

Taiwan is the 18th largest export market for South Carolina. The Palmetto State exported \$120 million worth of goods to Taiwan in 2002. Nan-ya Plastics invested nearly \$1 billion in Lake City, South Carolina, which ranks as the 2nd largest foreign direct investment in the Palmetto State.

###